

Open Exams Ordered for Chiefs

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Torrance Herald

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Torrance Grid Wars
Opening Friday
(See Sports, Page 37)

50th Year — No. 75

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HIT-RUN SUSPECT ARRESTED

Surrenders After Death Of Lomitan

A 22-year-old Torrance man surrendered to police this week to end a search for the owner of a vehicle believed to have been involved in a fatal hit-run accident at Crenshaw Boulevard and 227th Street early Saturday.

Surrendering at the Torrance police station Sunday afternoon where he appeared with an attorney was Felipe Ruiz, 22220 Moneta Ave., who told officers his car was the one that killed Vincent Ruelas, 46, of 25039 Walnut St., Lomita.

Ruelas was pronounced dead at Little Company of Mary Hospital after the accident. He had been a passenger in another car involved in a minor collision at the intersection and was standing near the car discussing the accident when killed.

POLICE WERE told the hit-run car struck three cars, knocking one of them into Ruelas.

Police found the suspected vehicle a short time after the accident. It had been parked on Sepulveda Boulevard just east of Crenshaw.

Ruiz was arraigned on felony hit and run charges and ordered to return Sept. 27 for preliminary hearing on the charges. He has been released from custody on bail.

ANOTHER Torrance resident, Robert C. Ferrin, 20, of 20524 Earl St., was arrested on felony drunk driving charges growing out of an accident on Torrance Boulevard near Lewellyn Street.

Ferrin is due in court Friday for preliminary hearing on the charges.

Salk Vaccine
Polio Clinic Set

A polio immunization clinic will be held Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 o'clock at the Meadow Park Elementary School. The clinic is being sponsored by the Meadow Park PTA.

Salk vaccine will be used, and a limit of \$5 charge has been set for families of more than five persons. Shots will be \$1 each for smaller families.

Man Enters Guilty Plea To Kidnaping

A 250-pound Torrance truck driver pleaded guilty Tuesday in Long Beach Superior Court to kidnaping a 14-year-old Signal Hill girl.

Appearing before Superior Court Judge Maurice C. Sparling was William Joseph Brunner, 36, who was slated to begin trial on kidnaping and rape charges filed against him after the girl charged Brunner had attacked her in an oil field near Long Beach.

Trial on the charges was canceled by Judge Sparling after Brunner entered a guilty plea to the kidnaping charge. He was ordered to return on Oct. 8 for a probation hearing and sentencing on the kidnap charge. Disposition of the rape charge will be decided at that time.

Police arrested Brunner a few hours after the victim reported that she had been pulled into a car at Signal Hill and driven to an oil field where she was attacked. She defied her abductor's warning not to look as he left and jotted down the license number of the vehicle. It was the number supplied by the girl that led to Brunner's arrest.

City Votes New Population Study

A population estimate by the State Department of Finance was approved by the City Council Tuesday evening. The council voted to provide funds and information for a new estimate of the city's population.

City to Seek Sheriff's Aid In Conference

A request that Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess lend a hand in bolstering operations of the Torrance police department is scheduled to be delivered to him this morning at a conference between him and the members of the city's police and fire council committee.

Trustees Disagree, Pick Site

A sharply divided Board of Education voted Monday evening to initiate condemnation proceedings for a second school site in the Victor Tract after lengthy discussion of the matter.

The trustees voted 3-2, with Mrs. Kenneth Watts and William Hanson dissenting, to begin proceedings to acquire a 5-acre parcel located 305 feet west of Earl Street on the north side of Spencer Street. The site was one of seven under consideration in the area, and is presently zoned M-1. The district will seek to acquire the 5-acre site for possible future development of an elementary school to serve anticipated residential developments in the area.

MRS. WATTS, in casting a negative vote, told the board "We have outgrown the luxury of small neighborhood schools." Hanson added that the present industrial-residential tax rate is out of balance, and said, "There was a time when industry paid half the school taxes."

S. E. Waldrip, assistant superintendent of schools for business, told the board a study in the area showed a possible pupil population of 480. In speaking for the acquisition of a site in the area, Dr. (Continued on Page 8)

Bid for Top Man In State

Examinations for police and fire chief in Torrance will be given on an open competitive basis following action by the City Council Tuesday evening. The council voted 5-2 to open the examinations after denying a request from the Civil Service Commission for further study of the matter.

Councilmen J. A. Beasley and Nicholas Dale cast dissenting votes on the motion by Victor Benstead, chairman of the council committee which made the recommendations.

The examinations will be open to men in the first three ranks of both local departments, and to men in the first three ranks of departments in California cities of 80,000 population. Previous examinations have been open to the first two ranks in the Torrance Police Department, and to the first rank below the chief in the local Fire Department.

THE MATTER had been sent to the Civil Service Commission for a recommendation. The council had asked for immediate action, and denied a request for further study from the commission before the final vote.

Benstead, who is chairman of the council's police and fire committee, told the council, "We have to go outside to keep these people on the ball." Dick DeYoung, who spoke on behalf of the Torrance Firefighters Local 1133, said the group opposes any change in the ordinance. He added that changes would "create serious morale problems" in the fire department.

THE REPORT of the police and fire committee said, "The recruitment for the positions of Fire and Police Chief should be commensurate with the highly accelerated growth of the city that has occurred during the past several years." Benstead, answering questions from DeYoung and Larry Summers of 1621 Flower St., said that the city wants the best qualified man for each position.

The councilman added, "If you put yourself where you belong, you'll have no trouble with outside (competition)." Dralle, who moved to give additional time to the Civil Service Commission, said most of the city's heads of departments had come from within the departments. He suggested that men with "x-number of years in the local department" be considered first, and examinations opened only if one of them failed to qualify.

ROSS SCIARROTTA, who voted for the fire and police committee's recommendation, asked the council to consider acting on each department separately. Said Sciarrotta, "Under the circumstances it would (Continued on Page 8)

Two Groups Oppose New Carson Incorporation

Opposition to the incorporation of part of the Carson area appeared for the first time this week. One group, the newly formed Carson Homeowner's Assn., will circulate petitions to prevent further incorporation proceedings.

In addition to the newly organized homeowners, the Keystone Women's Club has voted to oppose incorporation. The women's group cited lack of industry as their main reason for opposing the move.

The Carson Homeowners Assn., formed at a meeting of property owners in the area Sept. 11, will circulate petitions on which they hope to obtain the signatures representing 51 per cent of the assessed valuation.

WILLIAM SNUDDEN, elected president of the group, said the members felt that formation of a city of the size now proposed offers no advantage to its citizens.

"Certainly it will result in increased taxes, since the city will have to support the services of a city," said Snudden. The lack of business or industrial establishments was

cited as a major reason for opposition. The group felt that the tax base which the residential area would have would be insufficient to support the city.

"PROMISES TO annex adjacent areas once the city is incorporated in order to broaden the tax bases are weak," said Snudden. "The areas have fought previous attempts to incorporate them, and there is no indication that they won't fight annexation," he added.

The group's headquarters are at 127 E. 220th St., and will be open daily from 1 to 7 pm. The offices will be closed Wednesdays and Sundays. The office may be reached by calling 830-0444.

In The Herald Today

AFTER HOURS	26	ANN LANDERS	13
AMUSEMENTS	40	LEGAL NOTICES	41
BOOKS	28	REG. MANNING	26
ROYCE BRIER	26	JOHN MORLEY	26
CHURCH CALENDAR	36	MORNING REPORT	26
COMICS	40	OBITUARIES	12
CONNOLLY	23	OPINIONS OF OTHERS	26
DEATHS	12	PUBLIC NOTICES	41
EDITORIALS	26	SOCIETY	13, 15
ENTERTAINMENT	40	SPORTS	37-39
WILLIAM HOGAN	26	STAR GAZER	41-42
ART HORPE	26	WANT ADS	41-42
KNOW YOUR TRAFFIC	2	MARY WISE	32

A Penny for your Thoughts

At a meeting of the Torrance Education Advisory Committee this week, the Pennies photographer asked five Parent-Teacher Assn. presidents: "What are the roles which PTA should play in the education of school children?"

Mrs. Edward Schefers, Rivera Elementary:

"I think the job of the PTA is to aid in the communications between the school child's home and the school. We try to do this through our meetings, because our job is to inform and not to entertain. Some personal contact is necessary, also."



Mrs. William Cassida, North High:

"Communication between the school and the parents is the main job, I think. Better knowledge of what is actually going on at school helps to prevent misconception. We have to do this by taking a personal interest in what is happening and telling others."

Mrs. John Mathews, Yukon Elementary:

"I think the most important idea in PTA is that we are all working for the welfare of the children. PTA can do things that the schools don't have time to do, and that is the really important part of the various efforts made by the PTA."

Mrs. J. W. Wayt, Torrance High:

"As a group, we can do many good things on the national and community level. Many projects originate at the individual units, but have broad implications. As a nationwide organization, I think that the important role is one of caring for the welfare of the children."

Mrs. Ray Stewart, Madrona Elementary:

"The prime role as far as I'm concerned is to provide necessary co-operation between the parents and the teacher in the classroom. We need to help the parents to realize their own responsibilities to their children."

Torrance Council Vacancy Filled

Frank Paour Sr., 1310 Ampala St., was appointed to the Torrance Traffic Safety Council. Paour will fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Arnold C. Tauch.



WATERMELON EATERS . . . Torrance and Gardena YMCA members challenged each other to a watermelon eating contest last week, and the Torrance group took top prize. The contest was sponsored by Certi-Bond, which presented \$50 to the winners and \$25 to the losers. Top photo shows the first contest, which ended in a tie. In the bottom photo, Hermert Olmstead, Certi-Bond Store manager (center), presents the checks to James Mueller, Gardena YMCA (left), and John Bramhall, of the Torrance YMCA.

Les Richter Will Speak Here Tuesday

First Chamber of Commerce breakfast of the fall season will be held at the International House of Pancakes, Carson Street and Hawthorne Avenue, next Tuesday morning with Les Richter, all-time great University of California and Los Angeles Rams football player the guest of honor.

Tuesday's meeting will begin at 7:20 a.m., and Richter will give the early crowd a rundown on the 1963 Rams. Reservations are being taken at the Chamber of Commerce office.

Funds Approved

County Supervisors have approved the allocation of \$3,500 for the improvement of 237th Street between Eshelman Avenue and Walnut Street in Lomita.

Industry Problems Cited By City's Chamber Chief

What is the biggest problem facing industrial development in Torrance today?

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce has turned up some interesting answers while studying possibilities for attracting industry to this area.

One of the biggest and most startling answers, to quote Chamber Manager J. Walker Owens is that "too large a portion of the Torrance population doesn't really understand or want industry."

"In spite of the area's nearly unique natural assets and its enormous, continuing population growth," Owens said, "the fact is that our 'climate' for new industry and for the expansion of existing industry is poor and is worsening, particularly as compared to an opposite trend in other competing areas."

THIS POINT is graphically illustrated by the fact that in 1962 there were more than 17,000 industrial development agencies competing nationally for the companies that moved.

The large companies that moved totaled about 96 per month, or almost 1,200 for the entire year.

Such a numerical "battle" highlights the fact that one area must show substantial advantages over all the others in order to maintain a high rate of industrial growth.

The study also indicates that many cities, states and areas are offering more and more incentives and out-right subsidies to entice new plants which will provide more jobs and improve the local economy.

Commerce every industrial development effort makes full use of our climatic and geographic advantages—our image as a modern, dynamic, dramatic outdoor-living mecca—our enormous population expectation, and resulting huge consumption capacity are undisputable inducements to industry.

"However, once these major (Continued on Page 3)

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